DOCUMENT RESUME

ED 350 937 HE 025 915

TITLE	Survey To Predict How Students Would Use More Free Electives.
INSTITUTION	Northeast Missouri State Univ., Kirksville.
PUB DATE	Oct 91
NOTE	49p.; Produced by Student Senate in cooperation with the Day of Dialogue Core Study Committee.
PUB TYPE	Reports - Research/Technical (143) -- Tests/Evaluation Instruments (160)
EDRS PRICE	MF01/PC02 Plus Postage.
DESCRIPTORS	*Core Curriculum; *Course Selection (Students); Educational Change; *Elective Courses; *General Education; Higher Education; Personal Autonomy; Postsecondary Education; Questionnaires; Required Courses; Student Attitudes; Student Educational Objectives; Surveys; *Undergraduate Study
IDENTIFIERS	*Northeast Missouri State University

ABSTRACT

This study examined whether students at the Northeast Missouri State University felt the present Liberal Arts and Sciences Core Study requirements allowed enough freedom in choosing classes, and how students would respond to more free electives. Responses of 508 students were obtained to a questionnaire addressing the following areas: (1) how strict would the student describe the structure of the Liberal Arts and Sciences core; (2) out of four additional elective areas, how many would the student choose that would be out of his/her major area; and (3) assuming that the four elective courses cannot be in the student's major, which courses (from a list provided) would they choose to take. Also included are the free written comments submitted by students with the surveys. Overall, the students felt the present core offered too few electives. (GLR)

****
* Reproductions supplied by EDRS are the best that can be made *
* from the original document. *
****

HE

ED350937

SURVEY TO PREDICT HOW STUDENTS WOULD USE MORE FREE ELECTIVES

Produced by **Student Senate** in cooperation with the Day of Dialogue Core Study Committee

October 1991

HE 025 915

PERMISSION TO REPRODUCE THIS MATERIAL HAS BEEN GRANTED BY

Northeast MO State University State Senate

TO THE EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES INFORMATION CENTER (ERIC).

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
Office of Educational Research and Improvement
EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES INFORMATION CENTER (ERIC)

This document has been reproduced as received from the person or organization originating it.

☐ Minor changes have been made to improve reproduction quality

• Points of view or opinions stated in this document do not necessarily represent official OERI position or policy

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

INTRODUCTION

The Student Senate developed this survey in cooperation with the Day of Dialogue Core Study Committee in order to gain some tangible idea of how students feel about the Liberal Arts and Sciences Curriculum. The survey attempts to determine if students feel the present Core allows for enough freedom in choosing classes and what would happen in the event that the Core Curriculum would be changed at Northeast.

The survey was conducted by student senators administering it in approximately 30 classes at Northeast. The specific classes were chosen in an attempt to have a balanced sample among the class levels as well as having approximately 10% of each majors' population. Senators went into the classrooms in late September and early October to survey the 508 students who participated in it. In creating the survey, it was assumed that the two most significant independent variables would be class level (class standing in the results) and major.

Some initial results were presented by Student Senate Amy Enderle at the Day of Dialogue on October 5, 1991. In this packet, the results from several more classes have been added and more detailed analysis is included.

In addition to these numerical results, the free responses submitted by students with the surveys have been typed and are available. Contact the Student Senate for further information about these responses or anything else regarding the survey.

We apologize that the Department of Communications Disorders was erroneously omitted from the choices of courses students could take outside of their major in questions 3-30.

We hope the results of this survey can be of use in process of evaluating the Core Curriculum at Northeast.

SURVEY TO PREDICT HOW STUDENTS WOULD USE MORE FREE ELECTIVES

Produced by Student Senate in cooperation with the Day of Dialogue Core Study Committee

PURPOSE:
The structure of the Liberal Arts and Sciences Core Curriculum is being closely evaluated. If changes are deemed necessary, one possible change would provide students with more "free elective" courses. The intent of this survey is to attempt to predict the course selection behavior of students should such change occur.

INSTRUCTIONS:
Please list your MAJOR CODE (from the attached sheet) in the first 3 columns of the IDENTIFICATION box and your class standing (*1*-freshman, *2*-sophomore, *3*-junior, *4*-senior, *5*-graduate) in the 4th column of the same box.

1. How would you describe the structure of the Liberal Arts and Sciences Core?
(*A*-It currently allows for too many elective courses. *B* - It allows for a good balance of required and elective courses. *C*- It does not allow for enough elective courses.)

For the remainder of this survey assume that you are allowed to take FOUR additional "elective" courses.

2. Out of these four elective courses, how many would be from your major area?
(*A*-0, *B*-1, *C*-2, *D*-3, *E*-4)

Now assume that you can NOT use the 4 electives to take courses in your major. Please indicate the area(s) and number of courses from each area that you would take next to the line for each area (*blank*-0, *A*-1, *B*-2, *C*-3, *D*-4). IT IS IMPORTANT THAT THE TOTAL NUMBER OF COURSES ADD UP TO FOUR.

Example: If you wished to take two physics courses, 1 English and one history course you would mark *B* for line 24, *A* for lines 12 and 17, and leave the rest blank. Please remember that they can not be from your major.

3. Accounting
4. Agriculture
5. Art
6. Biology
7. Business Administration
8. Chemistry
9. Communications
10. Computer Science
11. Economics
12. English
13. Exercise Science
14. French
15. German
16. Health
17. History
18. Interdisciplinary
19. Justice Systems
20. Mathematics
21. Music
22. Nursing
23. Philosophy & Religion
24. Physics
25. Political Science
26. Psychology
27. Residential Colleges
28. Sociology/Anthropology
29. Spanish
30. Not Sure

WRITTEN COMMENTS: Please write down any thoughts and ideas you have about the present Liberal Arts and Sciences Curriculum and about how, if at all, the present Core might be improved.

Thank you for your thoughtful participation in this survey!

The table of results for questions 1 and 2 can be found on the following page. Questions 1 and two read as follows:

1. How would you describe the structure of the Liberal Arts and Sciences Core?
(*A*-It currently allows for too many elective courses. *B* - It allows for a good balance of required and elective courses. *C*- It does not allow for enough elective courses.)

For the remainder of this survey assume that you are allowed to take FOUR additional "elective" courses.

2. Out of these four elective courses, how many would be from your major area?
(*A*-0, *B*-1, *C*-2, *D*-3, *E*-4)

In analyzing the data, the first column lists the major and then the class level of the students. The first four columns deal with question 1. "No Opin." represents no response to the question. "Too Loose" corresponds to response *A*. "Just Right" corresponds to response *B*. "Too Strict" corresponds to response *C*.

The last 3 columns refer to question 2. "Courses in Major" is the sum of how many courses students said they would take in their major if they were suddenly given 4 additional elective courses. "Number Majors" describes how many students in a particular major were surveyed. "Courses/Major" indicates how many courses in their major the average student would take. The overall average was 1.98 courses.

LEGEND

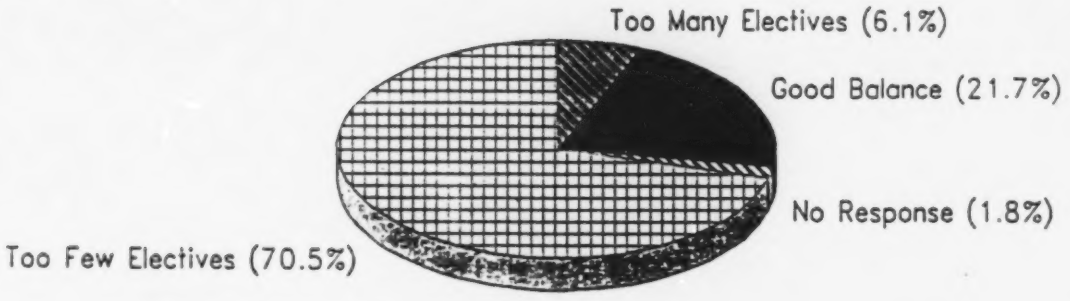
For Level: 0=Unknown 1=Freshmen 2=Sophomore 3=Junior 4=Senior 5=Grad. Student

For Major:

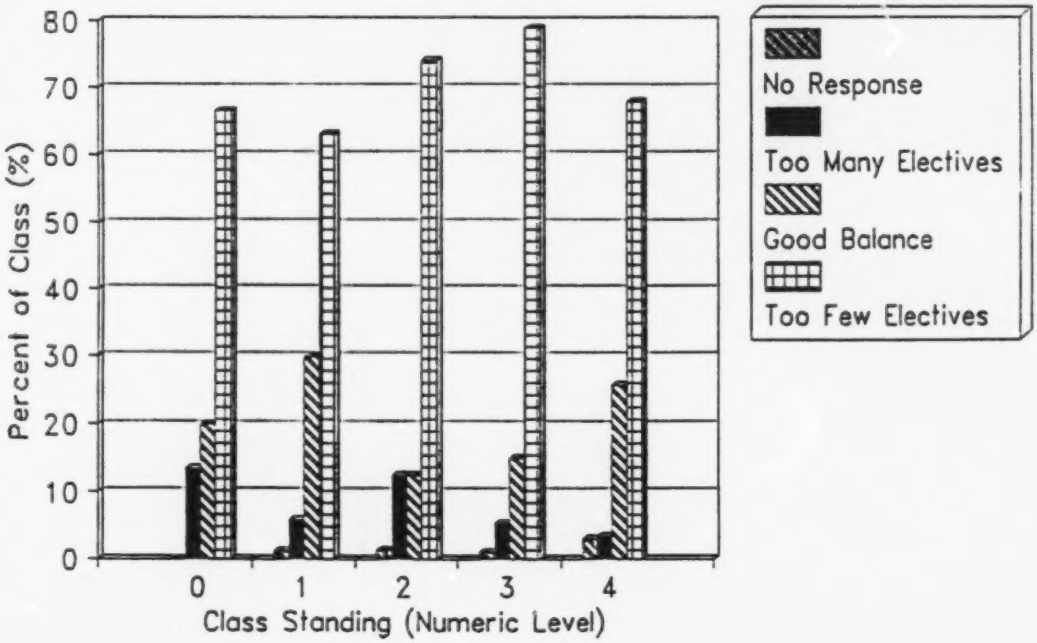
ACCT=Accounting	AGSC=Agricultural Science	ART=Art
BIOL=Biology	BSAD=Business Administration	CHEM=Chemistry
CMDS=Communication Disorders		COMM=Communication
CS=Computer Science	ECON=Economics	ENG=English
ES=Exercise Science	FREN=French	FS=Family Science
GERM = German	HLTH=Health	HIST=History
INDS=Interdisciplinary	IS=Industrial Science	JUST=Justice Systems
MATH=Mathematics	MUSC=Music	NU=Nursing
PHRE=Philosophy&Religion		PHYS=Physics
POL=Political Science	RC=Residential Colleges	PSYC=Psychology
SOAN=Sociology/Anthropology		SPAN=Spanish
UNDEC=Undecided/Undeclared		????=Unknown

MAJOR	NO OPIN.	TOO LOOSE	JUST RIGHT	TOO STRICT	COURSES inMAJOR	NUMBER MAJORS	COURES/ MAJOR
ACCT	0	2	15	26	87	43	2.02
AGSC	0	1	0	1	7	2	3.50
ART	0	0	0	14	27	14	1.93
BIOL	0	2	11	37	105	50	2.10
BSAD	0	3	4	33	85	40	2.13
CHEM	0	0	3	11	11	14	0.79
CMDS	0	1	0	6	15	7	2.14
COMM	0	2	7	25	67	34	1.97
CS	0	0	5	5	22	10	2.20
ECON	0	0	1	4	9	5	1.80
ENG	0	1	3	10	29	14	2.07
ES	0	1	5	9	39	15	2.60
FREN	0	0	3	3	11	6	1.83
FS	0	0	2	7	16	9	1.78
GERM	0	1	0	5	11	6	1.83
HLTH	0	1	1	8	21	10	2.10
HIST	0	0	3	7	15	10	1.50
IS	1	0	3	8	29	12	2.42
JUST	0	2	2	8	32	12	2.67
MATH	0	0	8	15	30	23	1.30
MUSC	1	3	0	16	36	20	1.80
NU	6	0	0	11	18	17	1.06
PHRE	0	0	3	7	23	10	2.30
PHYS	0	1	4	6	20	11	1.82
POL	0	0	5	10	33	15	2.20
PSYC	0	0	3	22	65	25	2.60
SOAN	0	0	0	4	9	4	2.25
SPAN	0	1	2	2	10	5	2.00
UNDEC	1	4	12	23	69	40	1.73
????	0	5	5	15	56	25	2.24
TOTAL	9	31	110	358	1007	508	1.98
LEVEL							
0	0	4	6	20	63	30	2.10
1	1	5	26	55	185	87	2.13
2	1	9	9	54	148	73	2.03
3	1	6	17	90	234	114	2.05
4	6	7	52	138	377	203	1.86
5	0	0	0	1	0	1	0.00
TOTAL	9	31	110	358	1007	508	1.98

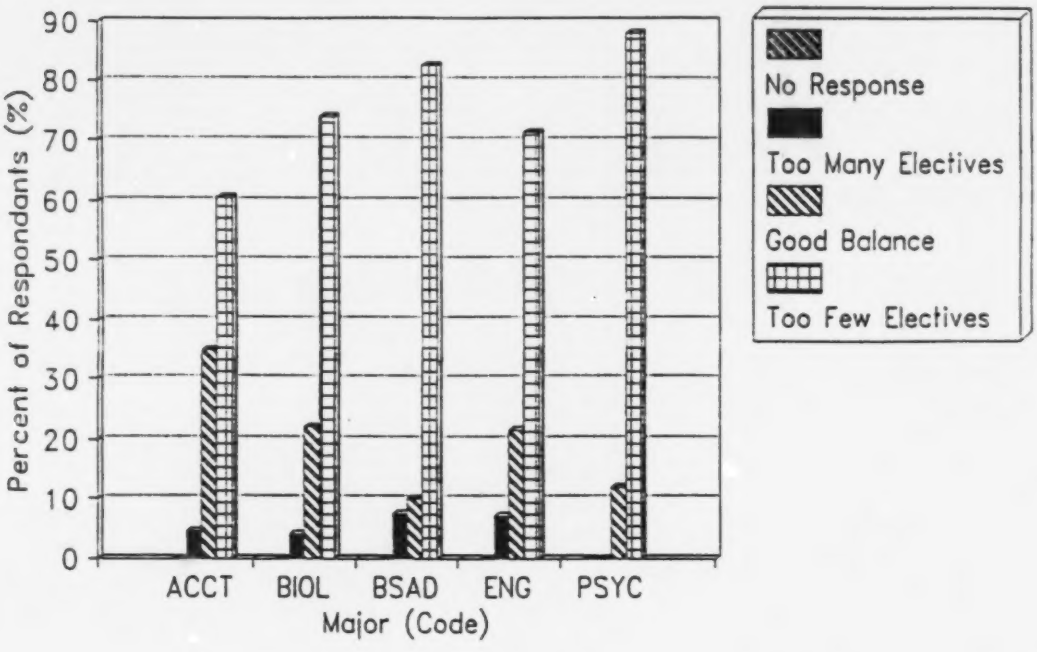
#1: CURRENT CORE STRUCTURE



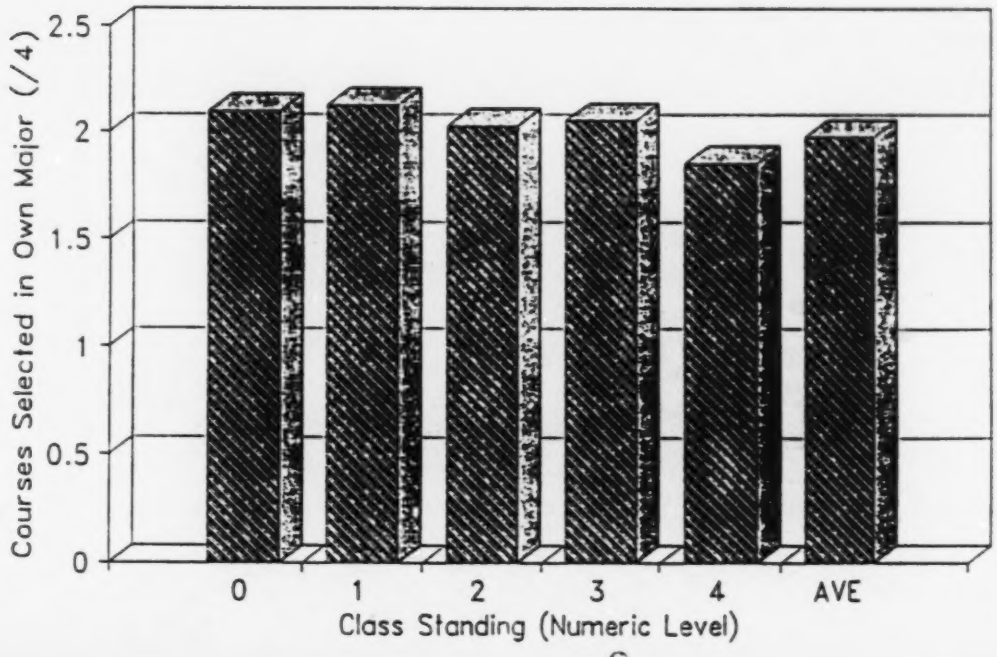
#1: CURRENT CORE STRUCTURE
Sorted By Class Standing



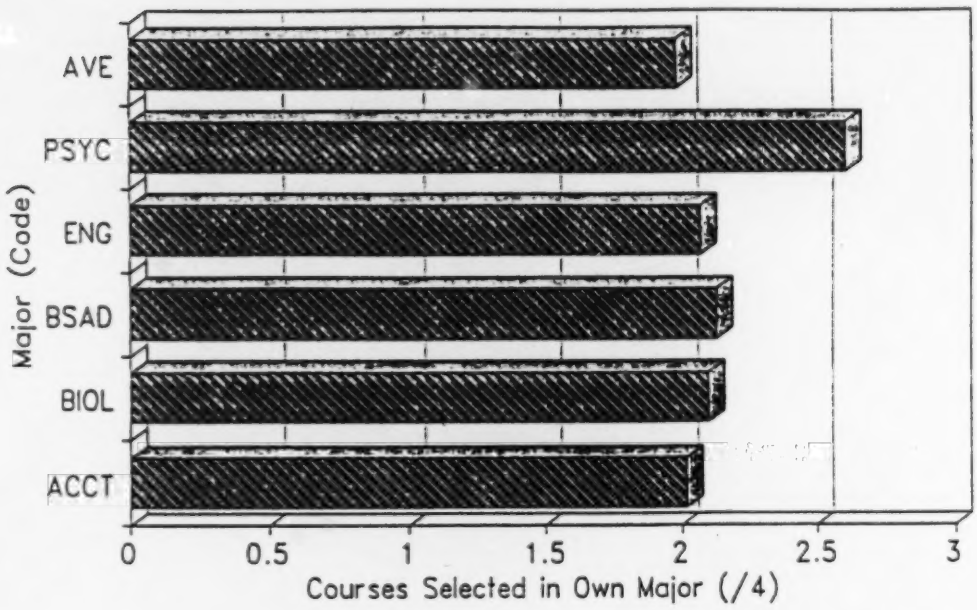
#1: CURRENT CORE STRUCTURE
Sorted By 5 Largest Majors



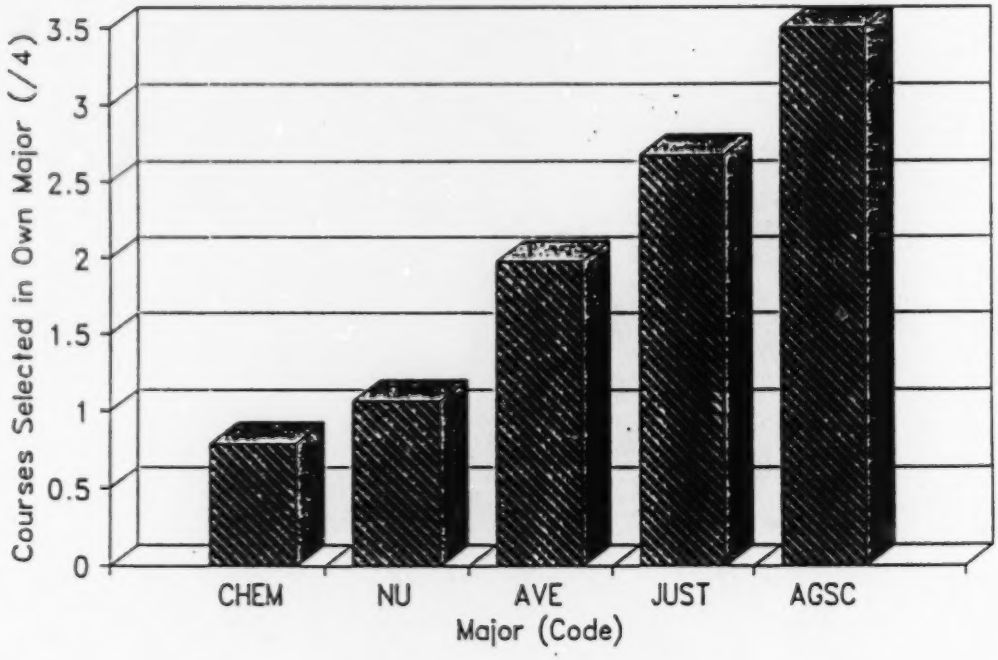
#2: COURSES IN OWN MAJOR
Sorted By Class Standing



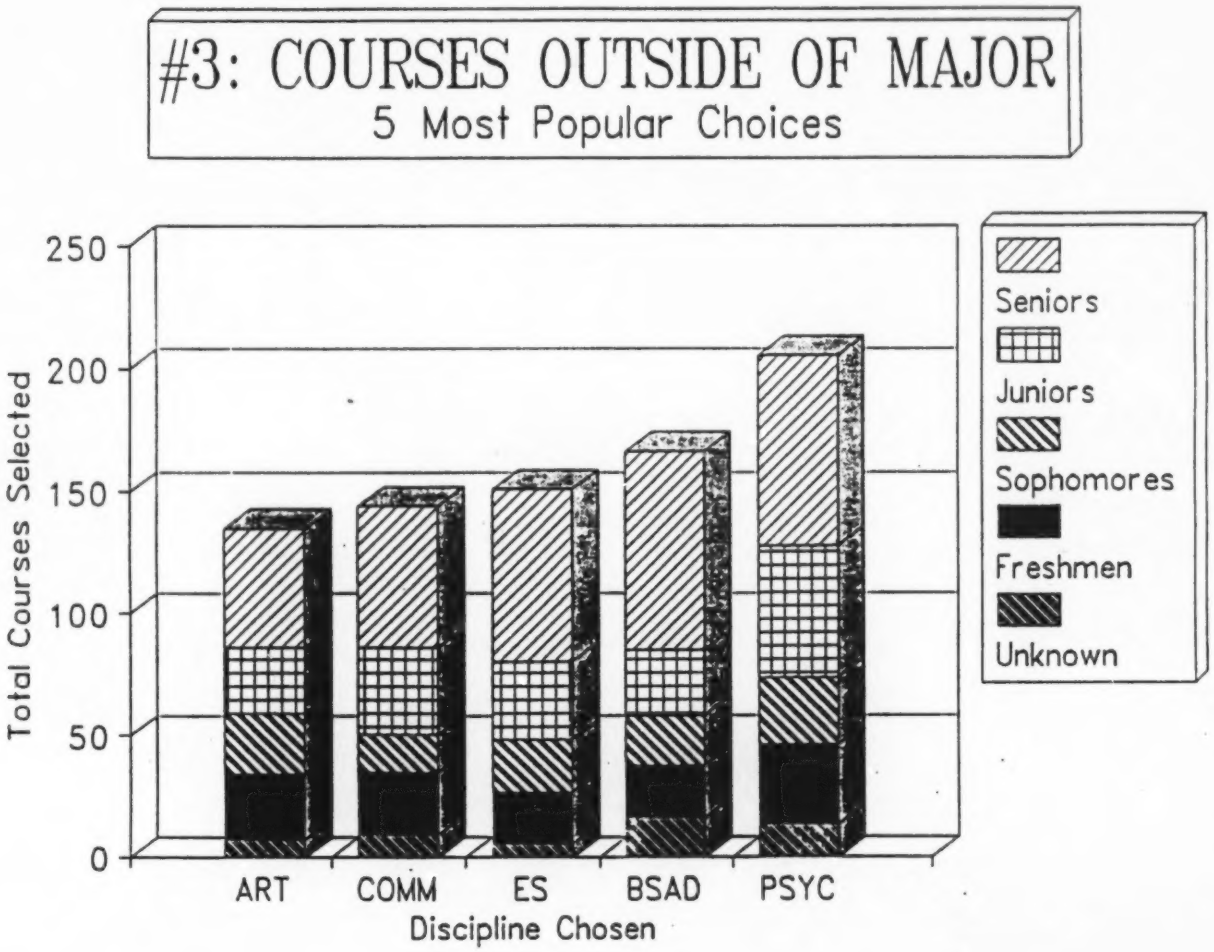
#2: COURSES IN OWN MAJOR
Sorted By 5 Largest Majors



#2: COURSES IN OWN MAJOR
Sorted By Most Polar Majors



The remainder of the results deal with questions 3-30 where students were asked to choose an additional 4 courses outside of their major. (If one looks closely at the results, a few students did not notice outside of their major, but since the numbers were small we did not throw them out.) The disciplines listed across the top indicate the courses students would take. The vertical list is the major of the students questioned. Thus, the "5" value in the 12th row of the 1st column indicates that surveyed exercise science majors would take 5 courses in accounting.



MAJOR	ACCT	AGSC	ART	BIOL	BSAD	CHEM	COMM	CS	ECON	ENG	ES	FREN	GERM
ACCT	8	1	3	1	43	1	25	17	7	6	15	4	2
AGSC	2	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0
ART	1	2	1	1	5	2	3	4	1	9	1	1	3
BIOL	4	10	21	6	7	5	4	11	5	14	28	3	7
BSAD	8	2	9	3	9	2	20	19	13	11	17	7	7
CHEM	0	0	3	8	2	1	1	1	0	4	2	0	3
CMDS	0	2	2	0	2	0	1	2	0	3	2	0	0
COMM	3	0	7	0	14	0	5	6	1	12	6	3	2
CS	5	4	4	1	5	4	3	1	2	4	1	1	1
ECON	4	1	0	0	3	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
ENG	0	0	9	0	4	0	8	2	0	8	4	2	3
ES	5	0	2	3	3	0	5	2	0	0	7	1	2
FREN	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	4
FS	0	0	1	0	3	1	2	0	0	0	11	1	1
GERM	0	0	0	1	3	0	2	0	2	0	3	1	0
HLTH	0	0	2	3	2	1	0	3	0	0	5	1	0
HIST	0	0	0	0	1	0	3	1	0	4	1	3	1
IS	4	1	5	3	2	3	2	3	1	1	6	0	0
JUST	0	0	6	2	2	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	0
MATH	8	0	2	2	11	2	2	11	4	6	6	0	2
MUSC	5	2	10	3	6	1	11	3	4	8	7	2	3
NU	3	1	1	6	3	3	6	8	1	2	8	2	1
PHRE	1	4	6	3	1	2	5	1	4	8	2	2	3
PHYS	1	0	0	2	0	3	0	9	0	0	0	2	0
POL	2	1	2	2	3	1	8	1	3	3	1	3	4
PSYC	0	2	11	2	7	0	6	2	0	8	5	1	3
SOAN	0	2	2	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0
SPAN	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	1	0	2	0	0	4
UNDEC	6	5	17	2	12	4	17	9	6	7	9	4	4
????	7	5	8	0	14	0	6	2	0	6	2	0	0
TOTAL	77	47	136	57	168	36	145	121	55	130	152	45	60
LEVEL													
0	8	6	7	3	16	3	9	6	1	7	5	2	1
1	11	4	28	5	22	3	26	17	3	24	22	10	14
2	13	9	25	10	21	7	16	20	12	19	22	7	3
3	14	9	27	14	27	7	36	19	12	26	32	11	24
4	31	19	49	25	82	16	58	56	27	52	71	15	18
5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	2	0	0	0
TOTAL	77	47	136	57	168	36	145	121	55	130	152	45	60

MAJOR	HLTH	HIST	INDS	JUST	MATH	MUSC	NU	PHRE	PHYS	POL	PSYC	RC
ACCT	2	9	1	7	5	7	1	4	1	6	11	2
AGSC	0	0	0	1	2	0	0	0	2	0	1	0
ART	1	4	10	1	2	3	1	13	3	1	6	1
BIOL	5	9	6	8	4	17	5	11	3	5	28	2
BSAD	5	16	4	19	9	5	1	7	4	14	10	3
CHEM	1	4	0	4	3	2	0	4	6	1	5	0
CMDS	1	0	0	1	0	2	0	1	0	0	7	0
COMM	1	9	2	11	0	6	0	13	0	5	16	2
CS	2	1	1	1	3	6	1	3	4	1	3	1
ECON	0	1	1	1	3	0	0	2	0	0	0	0
ENG	2	9	1	0	0	1	0	5	0	0	7	0
ES	6	4	0	4	2	2	0	2	0	0	7	0
FREN	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	1	0	1	4	0
FS	1	3	0	2	1	1	2	0	0	0	3	0
GERM	1	3	0	2	0	0	0	4	0	1	1	0
HLTH	6	0	0	2	4	1	2	1	0	1	6	0
HIST	0	0	2	2	0	0	0	9	0	3	3	0
IS	1	0	0	0	2	1	0	3	3	1	3	0
JUST	0	2	3	6	0	0	0	0	0	6	8	0
MATH	2	8	1	2	5	2	0	3	5	1	5	1
MUSC	4	1	2	1	3	1	1	4	2	2	10	1
NU	3	0	0	2	1	5	2	3	0	1	16	0
PHRE	1	3	6	1	1	4	1	1	1	2	1	1
PHYS	0	2	0	4	5	1	0	3	5	0	3	0
POL	1	11	1	9	1	3	1	9	1	2	8	1
PSYC	3	3	3	6	0	2	1	9	0	1	2	0
SOAN	0	2	2	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	3	0
SPAN	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	6	2	0
UNDEC	4	16	6	15	4	6	3	10	2	8	15	2
????	0	7	1	3	1	4	2	7	0	6	14	1
TOTAL	53	127	53	115	61	86	24	134	42	75	208	18
LEVEL												
0	5	10	4	4	2	6	4	8	1	5	13	2
1	9	21	7	24	13	15	2	16	3	13	33	1
2	11	21	3	22	11	19	4	17	7	11	28	3
3	9	17	13	27	11	17	6	45	9	19	54	6
4	19	58	26	38	24	29	8	48	22	27	78	6
5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0
TOTAL	53	127	53	115	61	86	24	134	42	75	208	18

MAJOR	SOAN	SPAN	UNSURE
ACCT	6	6	2
AGSC	0	0	0
ART	3	1	2
BIOL	16	13	6
BSAD	3	7	8
CHEM	5	0	0
CMDS	0	0	2
COMM	4	5	1
CS	1	1	6
ECON	2	0	0
ENG	3	2	1
ES	3	3	2
FREN	0	6	0
FS	1	0	2
GERM	0	0	0
HLTH	0	0	0
HIST	4	1	0
IS	1	4	0
JUST	2	0	5
MATH	2	2	0
MUSC	7	5	2
NU	0	4	5
PHRE	5	1	1
PHYS	1	0	1
POL	5	2	1
PSYC	20	4	1
SOAN	0	0	0
SPAN	2	0	0
UNDEC	7	7	15
????	3	1	2
TOTAL	106	75	65

LEVEL			
0	6	1	2
1	14	15	12
2	9	8	14
3	32	17	13
4	45	34	24
5	0	0	0
TOTAL	106	75	65

Agricultural Science - Junior:

I believe the core has too many requirements involving the arts. I'm currently taking a 100 level art class which has nothing to do with my major. The instructor is making the class to be harder than some of my 400 level classes. A ten page paper is due in there. This is totally unreal and uncalled for. Yes, sure it will make me a well-rounded person, but it is hindering my major classes that I need for my future profession. I could go on if I had more time.

Agricultural Economics - Senior:

The core classes really cut down the courses you want to specialize in.

Art - Visual Communications - Sophomore:

In my major there are between 140-141 credits required for graduation. I think some irrelevant courses should not be required. [Ex: extended math and science]. Otherwise there is NO way that we can graduate in 4 years, EVEN WITH OVERLOAD.

Art - Visual Communications - Junior:

I am an art major that does not particularly care for math. I must take College Algebra, Trigonometry and, possibly, Statistics. Yet, math majors do not have to take 3 art classes, nor do I think they should. I feel there should be more choices for me. I have heard, there used to be a "real life math" class; one that taught about taxes, balancing your checkbooks, etc. Let's be realistic, College Algebra and Trig have not and will not be remembered by me, or anybody else.

Art - Visual Communications - Junior:

For math and science requirements, have total number of hours required put into consideration the fact that if you take Math 198 it's a 5 hour course.

Art - Studio Art - Junior:

There needs to be more emphasis in the classes and within the core to parallel the non-major courses and how that applies to major courses. More required courses in philosophy and English should be implemented because learning to think critically and articulate one's thoughts and ideas will be very beneficial to the survival of a person entering the vast and overwhelming world of real life.

Painting - Physics - Junior:

Yes the core should somehow be modified to allow a more diverse sampling of other classes. This would corroborate our LA and ??? (unreadable). The wider range of experiences allowed by a more fluid core definitely makes sense if we are indeed a liberal arts and sciences university.

Art - Studio Art - Junior:

More elective hours definitely need to be given. There also needs to be more classes for you to choose from for the liberal arts and sciences core. Give more options on how to

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

fulfill it, the curriculum is just too rigid as it is.

Art - Studio Art & English - junior:

Keep in mind, please, that our first priority is our major classes. Then the electives that we chooses are next in priority because we like forming our own "liberal arts curriculum" from the choices of electives. Often, the core classes seem too demanding and numerous. The are extremely general, barely giving the student time to become familiar with the material. What is learned from this? There are so many to take as well, and often the credits seem to purposefully lengthen the time needed to complete the Core from that division, for example, Math 156 which is 3 credits and Math 157 which is 2 credits. This shortage of one credit forces the student to take an extra 4 hour science class to make up for the one needed credit in math. Why can't 157 just be 3 credits?

Just as well, the language requirement is terribly involved. I'd much rather have the choice of what "core" classes to take - things I can use, am interested in, will learn from and retain this knowledge. Would it be possible to implement a "Create -A-Core" program?

Art - Junior:

On the subject of Math and Science - I am not particularly adept in either of these fields; yet I am expected to perform well in both areas. Algebra for instance - If I don't understand how to work the problems and be able to pass, that I can take an uncredited math class for people who are math illiterate.

With all the stringent requirements of the core, I don't have time to take classes that have no other value than to help me grow as a person and be able (hopefully) to understand Algebra, not to mention another for trigonometry. Why not offer lower-level math classes? for credit, maybe more classes required, but at least I might pass and not feel stupid and won't be stresses because if I don't pass I won't graduate!

Art - Studio Art - Senior:

I believe there should be more of a definition between electives and major requirements. There have been times where I could not take additional studio classes because of requirements elsewhere.

Art - Studio Art - 2nd year senior:

It is a good curriculum, but I think more classes can be added such as more women studies and African American studies. I have taken intro to poetry and enjoyed it greatly and I believe it should be offered more often. I, as a student feel that the core is too large a chunk of busy work but I know that is beneficial and will serve me well in the long run.

Art - Emphasis in Painting - Senior:

It seems as though the math and science and foreign language requirements have been difficult for many to schedule and do well in. Some of the comments have been directed at the poor choice of text for College Algebra and teachers/courses that cover a large amount at a fast rate. The tutoring labs are good but no matter what anyone says - Some people will never use Algebra, Trig, etc. I have no problems with the science requirements personally, but the requirement that a student have 12 hours of foreign language becomes a tremendous

scheduling problem. I admire this school's high standards of excellence, but I think too much is expected too fast.

Art - Studio Art - Senior:

I think there should be more consideration in the fact that people learn and think in different ways. some people are more right minded and trouble with math, etc.

Art - Studio Art - (no level indicated):

The term "discipline driven" is deceiving. I am not allowed to take electives within my major, so how can these possibly be "discipline driven"?

I feel that college is my greatest opportunity to learn, yet I am constantly restricted as to what I can take as an elective. I even find the term "elective" somewhat as a joke anymore.

Biology, Pre-med - Freshman:

It tends to be too strict and too broad in its requirements. For example, science majors, I believe, are forced to take humanities and history classes or excess English classes when the same major at some schools do not need them to get their degree. In other words, it's too broad (they're trying too hard to make us universal), therefore, some struggle at the end to get the credits that are really important to their major.

Biology (BA) - Sophomore:

I don't think that the credit hours really represent the workload of certain courses. This is especially true for the science majors who have 3 hour labs that they receive no credit for. The labs are an additional 2-3 hour period that takes time away from other course studies. It makes it difficult to schedule courses and is sometimes not even beneficial as a learning tool.

Biology (BS) - Senior:

Presently, my major only allows for nine hours of electives. if I want to graduate within four years, there is no way for me to take classes which will "broaden" my horizons. I think the university should have faith in the maturity of its students and allow them to make the choices. The only thing that would change would be the waste-classes (ones we are forces to take and are notoriously bad) would be avoided (possibly a catalyst for improvement). I feel this university is not very liberal.

Biology (BS) - Senior:

There should be more choice in the classes from each field that are available to use in the core. I like the idea of having classes from many fields so I don't get overwhelmed with just taking science courses - exposes people in different majors to things outside their majors.

Biology - Junior:

I think that this current core curriculum is too intense and does not allow for enough time to take all of these courses and actually learn the material. Perhaps if the Core hours were reduced, the entire school might benefit greatly, and learn more by having enough time to make for choosing more electives.

Biology (Pre-med) - Junior:

I feel there are too many required courses in the Liberal Arts and Sciences core. I have enough in my Biology core to keep my time filled up. I would like to take some elective courses, like art, that have nothing to do with my major and aren't required.

Biology - Sophomore:

I believe that the Core does allow for enough electives, but does not offer enough possibilities for electives and is not flexible enough for many students. I think that some courses other than basic courses should be allowed, as in the Music History option.

These are supposed to be "Liberal Arts and Sciences" core. I think that Core courses should have global views and lectures included.

Biology (BA) - Senior:

It's ridiculous - I don't understand why Human Anatomy is not considered a biology elective because you obviously need other prerequisite courses to fully understand the material covered in this course.

Biology (BA) - Sophomore:

Would be nice if they could offer more night classes for those students that must work!

Biology (BS) - Sophomore:

The core is much too limiting. There are many classes that I would like to take but I can't because it would not count towards anything. Give us a chance to develop new interests.

Biology (BS) - Sophomore:

Get rid of "active learning".

Biology (BS) - Sophomore:

I think that the present core has too much gap in some parts, and redundancy and overlap in other parts. Ex: Pre -med Biology = Physiology is nearly impossible to get into, even with a yellow card.

Biology (BS) - Freshman:

Biology majors seem to have the least leniency in their core. For example, biology majors aren't even supposed to take classes like Zoology and Botany. From what I can tell, biology majors (especially pre-med biology majors like me) have to use almost all, if not all, of their electives in biology courses.

Biology (BS) - Sophomore:

The way it's set up now it's very hard to graduate on time with everything required by the school. The core takes up so much time I would rather use for major classes or just classes diverse and that would broaden my own personal interest. We're paying to get and education, but also for the experience - everybody's experience should not be the one the school wants. The core is OVER half of the credits needed. It should be about half or less to allow for other things. If you don't take certain classes at certain times, you won't graduate in time, and if you can't get a good teacher for those classes you have to take when the school says, then you won't get out on time with the desired knowledge!

Biology (BS) - Sophomore:

Working more for how many hours you work (Great example: Chem. only 4 hours, but work 7 hours a week). This is a great way to cause scheduling conflicts. I don't agree with a lot of the "core" you make us take. A few core classes is OK. But Health and Wellness, Apprec.. classes, and the like are worthless to my, and most people's major. HAVE A SEPARATE CORE FOR EACH MAJOR. Classes would be more worthwhile, and would save everyone time and money.

Biology - Sophomore:

The curriculum and core needs to be improved to that students can graduate in 4 years. We enrolled in a 4, not a 5, year university. NMSU has low, tuition, but it isn't such an economical place to go to when one has to attend an extra year. I know NMSU wants to maintain high standards, but they are making graduation more difficult that it should be. By causing us to be an undergraduate for 5 years, we're being placed behind people from other universities; WE'RE AT A DISADVANTAGE. I could use that extra $4,000 plus to put towards graduate education.

Biology - Senior:

There is no way I can possibly fit any more or any different classes into my schedule. An idea I think would be good is allowing more specialization inside the core, almost a minor in a core section.

Pre-med - Senior:

Allow students to take more English (or writing), math courses.

Biology (BS) - Junior:

Allow more leniency towards the core in option of more electives.

Biology - Junior:

I'm not real sure that Intro to Computer Science is part of my "core" requirements, but I do know it is necessary for my degree. My problem is that it is impossible to get this class until one is a senior. That's ridiculous! Having no computer classes in high school, I'm somewhat at a loss, for it is impossible for me to get this class.

Biology - Junior:

I really like the idea of freeing up some of the core requirements for more free electives. I learned hardly anything in my core classes like art and music appreciation. I wish I could have used these hours toward more valuable classes.

Biology (BS) - Senior:

Although I'm a senior and it is too late for me, I really wish I had been able to take a bunch of classes outside of my major. I only know Biology, but I know nothing about business or accounting. NMSU has too many requirements and if you want to graduate on time you are forced to rush through the courses in your major and can't try different fields. More electives might change this problem.

Biology - Pre-med - Senior:

The core is OK, but there are so many core requirements coupled with the number of major requirements for biology that there is not much room left for electives. I am planning on an extra semester at NMSU so I can take some additional electives I think would be helpful.

Biology - Senior:

I think freeing up the core by approximately 4 classes would be great! It would have given me a chance to be more creative and take classes I'd like rather than some classes that are have-to's. GOOD IDEA!

Biology (BS) - Freshman:

If elective courses were directed toward your major, you would have less opportunity to take other classes. If my electives had to go towards Biology, I wouldn't be able to take as many Spanish classes as I would like.

Accounting - Senior:

I always though college was about learning the basics of your major but also taking classes to learn about things that are of interest to you. But not at this school. I'm so worried about making sure I fulfill the requirements of my major, I can't think about taking other classes.

Finance - Junior:

I believe we take enough classes within our major that it is not necessary to emphasize our major in our core requirements. I think that the core requirements do not need to be integrated in our major. since we are not allowed a lot of electives, can't we have some fun?

Management (BS) - Senior:

I enjoyed the core classes I took. I did better in the core than I have in my major classes. I wish I could have taken more elective classes, but I wasn't able to because every semester I had to take my major classes which left no room for electives. I will graduate in 4 years with 148 hours on graduation. Every semester I had to take 15-17 hours to graduate on

time.

Finance - Senior:

I believe the core is too restrictive. I realize that the purpose of the core is for students to pursue a brad range of studies. However, many of the classes composing the core require little more than memorization to be successful (measuring success as a high grade) and require very little thought. Perhaps individuals could be given more choices of upper level courses in field of study outside their major (kind of like having a minor).

Finance - Sophomore:

I think we are forced to take too many liberal arts courses, without a chance to take electives. I feel that students will do better if they can take classes that they want to, not classes they are forced to take.

Finance (BA) - Junior:

The core curriculum needs to be reduced! 72 hours is just too much. I am a Finance major now, because I could not fit my foreign language courses into the accounting program, and still graduate on time. I have a minor in German and am starting Russian. If it hadn't been for the many hours of core requirements, I might have been able to remain an accounting major. The accounting program, by the way, needs to be allowed to be a B.A. but that's beside the point. Even now as a B.A. in finance, I may not be able to fit all the foreign languages into my program that I want to take.

Accounting - Senior:

The core is too restrictive. With the accounting program being as structured as it is, I have had little room to take any elective classes. Maybe we should be allowed to choose an area of concentration outside of our major instead of taking so many of the current core classes. Either that, or allow choices in the core classes for each major. For example, maybe accounting and business majors can be allowed to take Business Report Writing instead of one of the general comp classes.

Accounting - Senior:

Sometimes I feel it is too structured. I don't like the Humanities section. The classes that I wanted to take and were interested in were all in one part. Therefore, I had to forego the classes I wanted to take and had to take classes that I wasn't interested in.

Accounting - Senior:

I feel that a well rounded core is essential, but eliminating one class from each area is a good idea, so people can take more electives. Presently, accounting majors get only 9 electives hours after finishing the core, BS requirements, and major classes.

Accounting - Senior:

I believe the 15 hours required for humanities is unnecessary. I believe my time could've been spent better taking other courses of interest.

Accounting - Senior:

Since Northeast is a liberal arts and sciences university, I think it should require a solid curriculum in that area. However, I also think students should be given more of a choice as to which classes they take. I think too many math and science courses are required for accounting majors.

Accounting - Senior:

Especially in accounting, there are too many liberal arts requirements. After taking all required liberal arts classes and all required accounting classes there is almost no time left for electives. If I were to correct the liberal arts core, I would make students take liberal arts classes, but give more choices of the types of classes, as opposed to requiring 5 humanities or 3 social science.

Accounting - Senior:

I was a transfer student and do not really know anything about your curriculum.

Accounting - Senior:

I feel students should be able to take more courses for their major.

Accounting - Senior:

Have the CPA review class count as more hours. It meets for 16 hours a week but you only receive 3 credit hours.

Accounting - Senior:

It is too structured. Because I am an accounting major and the accounting classes we must take are so extensive. I have room for 9 elective hours. Entering freshmen are down to 4. This is very wrong especially when English or communications or industrial science majors have electives coming out their noses.

Accounting - Senior:

It's a good idea to allow for more electives.

Accounting - Senior:

The present curriculum gives a good background of liberal arts. It may be improved with a few more elective courses.

Accounting - Senior:

Make an ethics course mandatory for EVERY student. This could be geared towards their major area - but this should not be an option. Also, as an accounting major, I am constantly told to take additional writing and communication courses but between the core

structure and the accounting curriculum, I'd have to stay and extra semester to take any extra.

Management (BS) - Freshman:

Required classes are too hard. You yssups make them easier and more enjoyable. Also get some teachers that can teach. Do away with lecture part of H&W. This school is becoming a place for a bunch of nerds.

Accounting - Senior:

Core would be better off if students were allowed to take their major classes while a freshman. Allow students to try out different fields of study. Maybe have an interim period after Christmas break or before spring semester starts, so that individuals can try out different areas that what their major is.

Marketing - Sophomore:

If I want to graduate in 4 years, the probability of me getting to take just 3 classes out of my core that I want to take is highly unlikely.

Accounting - Sophomore:

Too many courses that take up many hours are only worth 1 or 2 hours like Health and Wellness and Computer Applications. Also gen ed. courses should not be as hard.

Accounting - Sophomore:

Taking electives is Jewish because if you have a hard major like me you will have to stay at this school longer than 4 years which is also Jewish.

Accounting - Sophomore:

I think that having people take core classes is good because it gives people a more diversity in the knowledge. However, being required to take so many humanities for example, causes people to take things they may not really want to take because that particular section must be filled. Some of these classes are very time consuming and you could be devoting this time to courses you really want.

Accounting - Sophomore:

In order to maintain the liberal arts and sciences curriculum, I think these classes should be more general and should represent an overview of the class rather than the specifics of a class. Most of these classes do not pertain to my major in any way so therefore I find it ridiculous to study and take a hard class to simply fulfill a core requirement.

Marketing (BA) - Sophomore:

72 hours out of 124 is EXTREMELY high. Too many hours are wasted on classes which students do not care about and will never need. Music apprec., physics, etc. More time should be spent in the major.

Accounting - Freshman:

There needs to be better transmission of class descriptions and importance of each class to decide what to take.

BSAD - Freshman:

I fell it requires too many credits in certain areas. The core does not leave room for certain classes to be taken out of interest or enjoyment, unless they pertain to our major.

Accounting - Senior:

The university should allow for much, much choice in terms of electives.

Accounting - Junior:

I really think the core is necessary to provide a good background. The interviewers I have talked to say that is a major area that they look at. I think we need to keep the core to keep the quality of our school.

Accounting - Senior:

The core contains most disciplines important to a good education. It is balanced well also because it puts more emphasis on areas where American students lag behind (ex. 19 hours for math and science).

Accounting - Senior:

I thought this was going to be a top of the line college when I chose to go here. What I got was a joke. I have several friends from all over the country attending top colleges and none of them are as restricted in their core requirements as this college. I feel a student should be able to mold his education into his needs without having to take two years of classes that have no effect on his degree.

Accounting - Senior:

Too many of the professors in the business department base people's grades on unfair criteria. We are often graded on material we have never seen before, or people in various organizations (ex. Acct Club, Delta Sigma Pi) are given higher grades than they deserve. If you want to make the curriculum tough, that's fine, but at least make it fair. Also, the teacher you take the course from may be considerably better or worse than other teachers teaching the same course...MORE UNIFORMITY.

Accounting - Senior:

Get DECENT teachers. Ones that know what they're doing and don't have a job just because of TENURE!

Accounting - Senior:

I think that students at a liberal arts school get too much background in courses that don't apply to their major. I think that there should be courses that everyone takes and then, according to one's major, background classes that will assist in their major. Example, for accounting majors, more background in computer science, business administration and business communication courses.

Chemistry - Junior:

Some divisions have no courses that contribute to the core, if they were truly liberal arts they would. How about a smaller core if you have a minor.

Chemistry - Senior:

It is much too restrictive. If I would like to take 2-300 level philosophy classes for instance this should count as my core humanities requirement, without having to obtain permission, signatures, etc. I AM SICK AND TIRED of taking junior high and senior high level survey courses because they are required. If NMSU wants to be better than a junior college it should stop acting like one. Also, in the arts, social sciences, humanities, objective tests should be BANNED. True/false tests DO NOT test understanding. Do we want enlightened graduates or monkeys?

Chemistry - Senior:

I've spent 11 semesters (counting this one!) at this university, and, in all that time, there were only a small handful of classes (3-5) that I took just for personal satisfaction. I received enjoyment from some of the required courses, but I feel I've spent too much time trying to fulfill requirements.

Chemistry - Senior:

Although it is a good idea to have a liberal arts core, I think it is too structured. There should be more room for interdisciplinary courses. Allow for more electives.

Chemistry - Senior:

More choices should be given in the humanities and social sciences. However, it is, overall, a good program.

Chemistry:

I think people should be allowed to take more liberal arts like psychology, sociology, etc. in order to learn more about our world and to not be so bogged down with the sciences.

Chemistry - Junior:

WAY TOO STRUCTURED!! There should be many more choices for the core. A lot of times what happens is some of these core classes is that there is just a barrage of information thrust upon you and the situation deteriorates into a mindless memorization of names and dates with little thought involved.

Chemistry - V.A. Senior:

Right now everything else that doesn't directly effect my major is filler, like pineapple in jello. Most of it is a waste of time and money, except when I attend cocktail parties.

Chemistry - Senior:

I am satisfied with the core. It has a good balance. If a class is not on the "core class" list, it's most of the time possible to take one you like with advisor's approval.

Chemistry - Sophomore:

The current core doesn't allow for the diverse studies/interest/knowledge that a medical school wants to see in its applicants.

Communication Disorders - Senior:

I think there are too many humanities courses that we have to take. I would much rather be learning about my major. There is a lot to know, and 4 years isn't enough as it is.

Not that this counts, but I also think the sophomore writing experience is stupid if you've already passed comp. I.

Economics - Senior:

I really did not have any problem with the core, but I am concerned about the difficulty of a student being able to change his/her mind about a particular major and then being caught by the core. It seems that too many of the classes are too difficult to gain credit for in a different area.

Economics (BA) - Junior:

With an econ. major, I find that business classes are helpful to accent my studies and hopefully improve my chances at a better life. But with the way the core is set up and also discipline directed electives, it leaves only a few hours to take the business classes I want. More free electives would give this opportunity.

Family Sciences - Food and Nutrition - Sophomore:

I think that some of the support courses for my major are ridiculous. Macroeconomics and principles of management are horrible and have nothing to do with my major (even though it seems that management should, it doesn't apply at all - it's basically a history in business course!) I'd rather fill in support classes that don't have anything to do with foods and nutrition with my own elective choice!!

Spanish - Junior:

I like the number of courses that you have to take for your major. For example, if I graduate with a degree in Spanish, I should be very well educated and specialized in this area. If the university were to take away courses from my major and turn them into free electives, then I should graduated with a major called liberal arts, not Spanish.

However, if I were granted 4 free electives, I would use them all to pursue a minor.

English/German (B.A.) - Senior:

A larger body of class options within each section would be nice - for example, allowing computer classes within the math requirement. Speaking of the math requirement, it should be reduced by on hour to help us dimwits who have to take the 5 hour Algebra - Trig sequence from having to take another 4 hours or 3 of science or math. Allow students to create their own program of study with INFORMED AND AWARE advisors.

German - Senior:

Clearly more faculty needed to solve problem of certain classes only offered in certain semester of certain odd or even years.

Spanish/German - Junior:

As a double major, I have no elective space to fill. Everything must count towards a major or core. For example, classes from one major fill major requirements for the other major. I thought that by coming to a liberal arts institution, I could try different areas I thought I had interest in , but if I intend to graduate in 4 years, I have to take only major courses and attend during the summer.

German - Senior:

The core is way too restrictive. It should be 60 hours at the most. 15 hours for 4 semesters.

German/Business Admin. - Senior:

With a double major, there is NO time at all to take a class that I would like to take just to learn more about it. I like to learn and would enjoy a class that isn't streamlined to my specific majors. I feel classes outside of my disciplines would also be "value added" to my personal program.

French - Junior:

I think that we need more classes offered within the French division, with more variety and less structure - to an extent.

French/English - Junior:

Offer a larger selection of courses that can be used for the core. Make it easier to substitute classes. Ex.: Astronomy for Physics 100. More electives.

Health - Sophomore:

I feel we are required to take too many classes - classes irrelevant to our major. This makes it so that no matter what your major, most likely you will no be able to graduate from this school in four years.

Health - Junior:

We are not allowed enough choice in what we want to take.

Exercise Science - Junior:

I do think there are too many requirements. Pick the classes you feel are "most important" to a liberal arts education. This would mean eliminating a few. Let us select our remaining classes; we're paying for it.

Exercise Science - Junior:

I feel that there is a pretty good balance between liberal arts and core classes. I think we should have more freedom, however, when it comes to being able to choose what liberal arts courses we want to take.

Health (BS) - Sophomore:

There are too many required courses that must be taken due to the core requirements. I feel much of the required subjects are boring and completely unsuitable to my major. Maybe two instead of five humanities should be required. Because it is insisted that we take many of these courses, our response to them is disinterest and laziness - resulting in lower grades and was of time. Yes, we do need some liberal arts, but enough is enough. Let us get out of here in FOUR YEARS!!

Exercise Science - Freshman:

I'M CONFUSED!!

Health - Junior:

More elective choice - wider variety and more classes offered at night.

History (BA) - Sophomore:

I think that there is too much math and science in the core. It seems unnecessary and difficult for many people. The core should be reduced because it takes too much time. T think that it's a good idea, but just too big right now.

History - junior:

More Asian studies as an alternative, including language and culture classes, etc. Possibly language minors in Japanese or Chinese.

History (BA) - Junior:

I think the core is a little too structured. The math and science portion is no fair to students because it forces a person to take extra science and math courses that could be better used some place else.

History (BA) - Junior:

The current core is too large. 72 hours is too large. Also, it is difficult to substitute courses for the courses for the core. I would suggest trimming the core down to 56 or 60 hours, thereby allowing more free electives for the student to choose.

History (BA) - Senior:

I think the ratio of electives to major requirements is fine, but on area where students need more freedoms to choose in the types of electives available to count towards the core requirements. What I would like to see, therefore, (if possible) is to let students pick, say 10 hours of core subjects without being confined to a sheet that says, "10 math and science hours, 5 from philosophy, etc" I understand the need to ensure core diversity, so that students don't take 40 hours of Basic Approach to Art but more of the required hours should be freely chosen.

History (BA) - Senior:

I like most of the general core. A little of everything is needed in a liberal arts university. Some of the particular classes required are not as effective. Since everyone has to take a particular class the enthusiasm is not there.

History (BA) - Senior:

The current core isn't perfect, but I wouldn't want to see done away with. A good strong core is really a necessary part of the liberal arts experience. I would like to see a little more flexibility within the core - for example, being able to emphasize a little more on one's personal interest. I wouldn't mind seeing an extra elective or two.

Pre-Engineering - Junior:

Please reduce the required core and transfer that amount into electives.

Pre-Engineering (Electrical Engineering) - Sophomore:

I am not going to get my degree from the accredited college, but instead from one that offers more to my major. I am transferring to MU. Thank you.

Pre-Engineering - Freshman:

Less core, more electives and major courses.

Industrial Science - Sophomore:

The present liberal arts and science curriculum could definitely undergo some core renovation. Cores should incorporate no only different fields of study but these classes should have a direct correlation with specific majors.

Industrial Science - Sophomore:

I think this university is stupid to phase out the I. S. program. It is the best area at this university, all the professors are good. Can't say that about any other division. You think you're so nice to allow us to finish our courses, but the degree won't mean squat from a school with a phased out program. Bring it back and be bright.

Industrial Science:

I transferred from an accredited junior college, therefore, I did not take the core here. I am curious, though, as to while my full 64 credits were accepted. I do not understand this line of thinking.

Industrial Science - Senior:

Give a broader choice of what classes can be used to meet the requirements. Also, do not limit the amount of classes from each area that are required now.

Industrial Science (BS) - Sophomore:

I am 32 years old. I've returned to school after 10 years of absence from classes. NMSU does not want part-time students. There are no attractive hours in classes. I work for City of Kirksville. The are letting me off during working time for my advancement. But I feel NMSU does not care about an experienced person advancing their education.

Justice Systems - Freshman:

Taking electives is ridiculous because your classes, I feel, should only apply to your major.

Justice Systems - Junior:

It needs to be a little less strict and require less hours. The total graduating hours don't HAVE to be changed, but the core is too cumbersome. The 40 hours of 300-level or above courses is bull. Get rid of it. If the classes were all structured so the codification was universal it might be different. I've taken 100-level classes twice as hard as some 400's.

Justice Systems - Senior:

I think it's a good idea to require a wide range of classes to make the student a well-rounded person, but if the student does not desire to take a course in a particular area then they should be able to substitute say 6 hours with another required area, because if they don't desire those courses they will not excel in them.

Justice Systems - Senior:

I think the liberal arts curriculum is balanced for the major I'm in. I am allowed to increase my knowledge in areas other than justice systems. I like the way the core is set up to give us a broad area of varied topics.

Justice Systems - Senior:

It would be nice to have a few more electives. Everything is so structured you really don't have much of a choice. It is also nice to have a few more electives because if a person switches major, for example, they can just put those classes toward the electives and consequently, won't get so far behind.

Justice Systems - Senior:

Get rid of the humanities requirements or cut it down. I don't care about Theater Appreciation, but I ended up taking it because it was the only class that would fit my schedule. i didn't learn a thing in that class except how to sleep and not get caught.

Justice Systems - Senior:

Less required math and science classes.

Justice Systems - Senior:

Stop increasing the tuition every single semester. Lengthen the time for each catalog to finish the requirements for a given major.

Computer Science - Senior:

I dislike the concept of a "core" altogether. I already have a good liberal arts background. Because of the core requirements, I've been forced to take a lot of material that ADDED NO VALUE to my education. Given free rein, outside my major requirements, I would have had a much richer experience.

Mathematics (BS) - Freshman:

I don't care because I'm leaving at semester.

Mathematics (BS) - Freshman:

The curriculum offers enough classes to complete the core, your major and electives. The core could offer better (interesting) classes.

Mathematics - Sophomore:

There are not enough choices for our humanities requirements. Also, in the social science options, there are not enough business classes offered.

Mathematics (BS) - Senior:

I think that Health and Wellness should be taken off the curriculum because I found it meaningless and boring. Requiring such a strict combination of Comp I, Speech, and Comp II is stupid. Maybe a choice of 2 would be better and then add an elective to the curriculum not necessarily in English.

Mathematics - Senior:

More freedom. A less strict core. How about take x hours in history/social science instead of x hours from this strict list of classes. Double count the reasonable, ex. foreign language taken for BA (12 hours) 6 should also count in core. Still learned it, didn't you, and fulfill the goals of the degree. Dump English comp classes, they waster time. We have to write more and better quality in other classes. Exercise Science requirement is stupid especially since almost no one takes it seriously.

Mathematics - Senior:

The balance of all the subjects available is, on the whole, good. Although some areas need improvement and others need a cut back. Then again, this is only my opinion .

Mathematics (BS) - Senior:

Allow for free electives. Also allow these free electives to be on a pass/fail basis. (Encourage students to try subject areas which might interest them without the fear of wrecking the old "almighty" GPA)

Mathematics (BS) - Senior:

I think the core requirements do offer courses that hit most people's interests. I think it would be very nice to have more choice and free reign. It would be nice to take classes merely because you'd find the subject interesting.

Mathematics (BS) - Senior:

I believe that by the time many people get to be seniors, they have, at least somewhat, changed their ideas of what they want to do after college. This means they either have taken courses that do no count, or they have classes they want to take that would help them, but are not in their major requirements.

Mathematics (BS) - Senior:

I really enjoyed taking courses in the Core. I learned a lot and feel that I am a well-rounded person. However, I wish there was a way to select at least one class from each of the areas then choose the rest of the core freely.

Mathematics - Senior:

As I indicated on the computerized survey, I would like to see more electives in the core. After thinking about it, I think 4 free electives. I'm very health conscious and would like to take one or two more health and exercise courses which would better my health condition. I'm also disappointed that in my strict schedule of math and education classes that I never had

the opportunity to take an accounting or business class of any sort.

Mathematics (BS) - Senior:

Incoming students need to know ahead of time that 40 hours of upper level classes are required to graduate. I only made it by a narrow margin because I did not know about this until this year.

Mathematics - Senior:

An actuarial directed major would be an excellent improvement since few of the math courses are not directed toward or helpful for the actuarial science profession. If the more education math electives could be replaced by advanced statistics, computer science, and business courses, the actuarial students would really benefit.

Accounting major/Math minor - Sophomore:

I feel that all programs at NMSU are too strict and not at all flexible. I plan to change my current major (math) to accounting. When I spoke with an advisor about this she told me it would probably take me an additional 4 years to graduate. Then I went to another university and told them my situation and they said it would only take me an additional 2 years. This is ridiculous. Why should I stay somewhere for 6 years where I can go somewhere else for 4 years. Someone NEEDS to change some things NOW!

Sociology - Senior:

I feel the liberal arts and science core directed requirements you should be allowed to take approximately 10 hours of any class from any area. Since this is a liberal arts university every class offered should count as core electives.

Sociology/Anthropology (BA) - Senior:

I think the core is much too rigid. Although it's possible to substitute classes that aren't listed on the core, it's a difficult process, and I think that should be made more flexible. I also think that Discipline Directed electives should not have to be from part of the Core, but should include areas such as art and business, etc.

Music - Liberal Arts Concentration (BA) - Junior:

The main problem I find is the unwillingness for substitution of the core classes. People should be allowed to take the courses they want, or given more choices in order to complete the core requirement. With this solution you wouldn't have to give electives, just allow people to create their own core.

Music - General Concentration (BA) - Sophomore:

I think it's the core that presents the problem. Yes, it is important to have an understanding of different areas of education, but when you have to take twice as many core classes as classes in your major, it's getting out of hand. I think we need to be able to take more electives in our major and still get out of here in NO MORE than five years, hopefully only

4, with a BA.

Music Education - Junior:

I think that the core requirements are such that studies in the major area are detracted from because of too many core requirements.

Music - Junior:

I have found that the Music requirements are very difficult to complete in four years. It is almost impossible for a student to leave in 4 years, and that's without taking any other extra courses much less electives. Maybe if the 12 hours of foreign language were reduced to 6 it may be easier to get through. Another thought would maybe make some of the Core classes elective. I just feel it is too much to ask of a student to try to complete their education in 4 years, especially when there are so many different classes which are required.

Music - Junior:

In the music department, it is very difficult to take electives of you choice, because electives are taken up with music requirements. I think the Arts and Science Core should be evaluated according to each major area and worked on from there. Each major would have a slightly different core curriculum, but the students would still be receiving a full liberal arts education.

Music Education - Junior:

Being a music major, we only get about 4 credits of electives and 2 are from the major. I enjoy my classes, but sometimes wish I could take more classes that I wanted to take and not classes I was required to take. One class that I wish I could take, but is not even offered here, is the Physics of Music. That, for me, would be a fun elective because I like science and music and the relationship between the two.

Music (BA) - Junior:

I'm the type of person that really never gets burned out. Well, I've messed up a couple of classes in which I've chosen to take over, and I myself will add that to my hours. But the music curriculum is so full of courses that I know I'll NEVER use, that now I'm bogged down and enjoying what I do best, make music. I think they're stressing too much.

Music - Junior:

I think the humanities section of the core needs to be expanded if possible, or at least made more flexible. I am interested in taking theater classes, but the only one in the core is theater appreciation, and that wouldn't count for me anyway since I am required to take Music History I and II. More of the literature courses should be counted - possible Dramatic Lit? Outside of humanities, I think the rest of the core is reasonable.

Music - General Concentration (BA) - Junior:

As a music major, I think the university needs to look over all the things we have to take within our major. They would see then that we simply don't have time to take all of the math

and science classes that we are supposed to take. I'm not totally against taking classes outside my major, but if the university staff would put themselves in the students' shoes, they would see that it's not always possible.

Music (BA) - Junior:

Give us some breathing room. If we mess up a schedule in just the littlest way, it screws up the order of curriculum classes so badly that it's a major struggle to get back on track.

Music (Voice - BA) - Junior:

I support the idea of a widely based education. The core requirements at Northeast try to offer this, and they say they offer this, but in reality the core itself is so structured that I am not able to REALLY choose what I want to take. Rather, I must pick from what the University wants me to take. The core must be "departmentalized", obviously, but within each department or division, it would be nice if the student had a little more freedom. Also - someone should make a little clearer where the interdisciplinary classes and the classes offered in the Residential Colleges fit in exactly.

Music - Liberal Arts Studies - Junior:

I feel strongly that the core is too large, and especially in a major as demanding as music, the core is very difficult to complete. The area that is hardest to complete. The area that is hardest to complete, I think, is humanities. We are required to take 5 classes out of the four areas. And since we all must have 40 hours of 300+ classes most of just end up taking difficult philosophy and literature classes to fulfill this requirement. I think the core should be slightly diminished and the number of 300+ classes we have to take should be diminished.

I have one other problem with the core. I don't feel that it is explained thoroughly enough to incoming freshmen. As a matter of fact, I don't think it is explained at all! Please let people know what they are getting themselves into!

Music Education - Junior:

I'm not that familiar with the major areas, but music education could do with A LOT more freedom. I wouldn't mind taking a class or two here and there just for the heck of it, but I really can't.

Music -General Concentration - Junior:

In its present state, the core curriculum allows for no extra investigation into a subject of interest outside of my major. At the most, I can take one class in a field that is intriguing - hardly enough to scratch the surface.

Also incorporated into this problem, if I make one error in course selection, or even run into a scheduling conflict, the core is so regimented that I would wind up staying an extra semester at least. As it is now, I am carrying a course load of 21 hours, many of which are 1 credit classes taking at least 2-4 hours per week. Therefore, no only does the core need to be re-evaluated, but the credit allowances for the courses also.

Music - Junior:

There are too many requirements for core. For example, I am not able to obtain a minor in another area during four years because of all of the classes I must take for my major as well as the core.

Music - Senior:

I think it is extremely important that students be allowed to choose more electives within their major. I know there are several music courses that would be beneficial to me - but I would have to be here an extra semester or two just to get them all in!

I believe that a strong liberal arts background is essential, but I really feel "cheated" because I do not have enough time to take several elective courses within my major.

Music Education & Music Performance - Senior:

For music students, the present system is completely void of liberal arts ideals. Very few electives are allowed if any, and most non-major classes are dictated to the student because of M.A.E. requirements. A liberal arts education MUST leave an array of classes that will give the student the variety and interest to maintain a broad understanding of our world.

Music & Speech Communication - Senior:

My biggest complaint is the amount of time and study some of the core classes take. I find it very frustrating to know I have to allow more time for classes outside of my major than for those I'm most interested in. It is not always due to the difficulty of the classes either, but because many of the core classes require so much busy work.

Northeast wants to be a liberal arts university. They need to realize that that involves more than studying. With the academic demand put on students, many are forced to make sacrifices and give up some of the extracurricular life. Professors need to be aware that students do carry full loads. Many like to require attendance to outside events and lectures also. I think they are being unrealistic.

Music Education - Senior:

It seems to me that the Core is too strict. The amount of classes which are required seems all right, but there is not much leeway as to which courses can be taken. As a music major, almost all of my "electives" are chosen for me. If I want to graduate on time, I can take only the courses which have been chosen for me to take. The purpose of college, especially at a liberal arts institution is to learn all that I can about everything. Instead, I am learning what others feel I should. If the core was less regimented and more substitutions were allowed, I feel it would be much more effective.

Nursing - Senior:

It's too structured and does not allow for variety for emphasis in any area.

Nursing - Senior:

In my major there are not enough opportunities to take electives. I would like to see the humanities core broaden to include a greater variety of literature courses and foreign

language related courses.

Nursing - Senior:

To allow for more electives.

Nursing - Senior:

With the classes you have to take there is no time to take other classes for fun or elective - It takes longer than 4 years (no summers).

Nursing - Senior:

With all of the nursing classes and related science curriculum we have to take, it is hard to meet the Liberal Arts requirements (which seem like a lot). I would like to see a decrease in the amount of humanities that have to be taken so more concentration can be placed on major requirements.

Nursing - Senior:

I think core classes are a good idea because if there was not any then I would have just taken science and nursing classes.

Nursing - Senior:

Allow for more free electives.

Nursing - Freshman:

Since I am only a part-time student, I am not completely aware of the curriculum.

Nursing - Senior:

Allow more than 2 classes from each area to be taken. Because some people may like the arts and want to take theater, art, and music instead of taking literature.

Nursing - Junior:

I feel that I have little or no choice about my electives. I suggest that the military science class 3rd year, MS300, should count as fulfilling a history requirement because of its deep and involved military history content.

Nursing - Senior:

The core should be more expansive. This would allow students to take classes that are more applicable to their areas of interest and/or degree. For example, I as a nursing student should be allowed to take sign language as a humanity requirement rather than a music appreciation class. This would still allow me to be well-rounded, and would also help me at a professional level.

Philosophy/Religion - Junior:

The idea of a solid core is good because it protects the "liberal arts" part of our education. However, I feel that too many credits are required from certain areas. I feel that it should pique my interest and raise my awareness, but multiple, required classes in the core that I have no interest in is ridiculous.

Philosophy/Religion :

Any exercise class should count for Health and Wellness (ie. racquetball, weight training, etc...) Speech could be substituted with an acting class.

Philosophy/Religion - Junior:

I think that in terms of creating critical minds philosophy is the most effective tool and that ALL liberal arts students should be required to take philosophy specifically and logic in particular.

Philosophy/Religion - Junior:

It should be easier to replace upper level courses into the core. If a student wishes to take Roman History or Astronomy rather than something else in history or science that is in the core, s/he should be allowed to do so. There are some majors where core classes are the only place where the student has the available credits to explore. Students should be encouraged to do so rather than stifled and perhaps leave school frustrated because they couldn't take the classes they wanted to take.

Health and Wellness is a waste of time. Why not require 2-3 hours of physical activities credit and forget the health class. I didn't learn anything in there anyway.

Philosophy/Religion - Junior:

Same number of credits but more leeway in each area of focus - Eg. Astronomy permitted to count toward the science core, etc.

Philosophy/Religion - Senior:

I believe the problem with the core lies in the demands made by many major programs. As a philosophy major, I have had the opportunity to take a variety of classes, because of the limits on major classes, that many students have not had. There should be more allowance for pursuing interests, but no reduction in the broad base of requirements the core itself allows. I feel that the only chance some students may get to take an art or lit. class would be taken away by major requirements if that were allowed.

Philosophy/Religion - Senior:

At a liberal arts and sciences university, I think it is important that students be required to take courses from a wide variety of academic disciplines. However, I think the present core could be improved if it was more flexible or "negotiable", that is, students should be allowed to take courses that might not be specifically core classes, but would be similar (from the same division, most likely), as long as these changes were advisor-approved.

Philosophy/Religion - Senior:

I liked the liberal arts and science core when I was a freshman and sophomore, but as I finished up these requirements I didn't really didn't have anything to take but my major courses. It would be nice to have time to take upper level electives (one's that would fit into my class load and were more than an intro class.)

Philosophy/Religion and Poli Sci - Senior:

I think the Core does a good job of broadening a student's perspective. To cut anything from it would likely lower the quality of student NMSU is graduating. Not to sound pessimistic, but I think that removing some Core requirements would lead to uninformed graduates. Many people only take courses from various disciplines because they have to. Without them being mandatory, we would end up with a narrower general education.

Physics - Junior:

I wish some of the liberal arts courses were specialized for a particular major. For example, comp I. could contain instruction on technical writing.

Physics and Chemistry - Senior:

As a double major, I think it is important to have a reduction in required core classes. Perhaps from 72 hours, down to 63-65 hours to allow more freedom to explore advanced classes related to my major. These advanced courses should help prepare me for grad school.

Political Science - Sophomore:

To require more core classes than major classes makes zero sense. That should be switched around. If we had more major courses it would better help us if we were to go to graduate school because we would have ore knowledge in our field.

Political Science - Sophomore:

In order to earn a B.A. in political science, it is required to take 2 sciences (biology and chemistry) as well as 6 hours of math (college algebra and trig.) Realistically these courses will not help me on my LSAT and will only lower my GPA and hinder my chances to get accepted at the law school of my choice.

Political Science - Sophomore:

I like the current core because it allows for a wide background of knowledge which many businesses are requiring. It does not limit you to just your major classes. However, I fell that the core is too stringent. It needs to be lowered to around 57-60 hours to allow for more electives. College is the time when students are supposed to be trying new things to find what they want to do. The core doesn't allow experimentation of new areas.

Political Science - Junior:

The point should not be that we can take MORE classes as electives, but that we should have a wider variety of classes open to us. For instance, to fulfill the philosophy core requirement, I should be able to take a 300-level class and have that meet the requirement. Why should I have to suffer through a boring 100-level class when it is the more challenging class that interests me? I could learn much more and be more liberally educated if I have more choices.

Political Science - Junior:

The current curriculum is a little inflexible. Perhaps, allowing students to have more choices would work better to meet their individual needs.

Political Science - Pre-Law - Junior:

It's fine. I like it. Please many any changes that would help ME get better grades than I already do.

Political Science - 2nd Semester Junior:

I think that it is a little too strict or stringent. There are so many subjects that I would like to take but there's no room to take them. Ex., I would love to take more psychology classes because it would probably be very useful with my discipline. I don't see why a political science major needs to understand trigonometry. The math requirement seems to destroy more people's GPA. Maybe, they should improve the math department because out of all the classes people fail it seems more students fail math courses than any other subject.

Also, maybe within the core there should be a more open choice as to which class in a particular area a student could take. For example, maybe in the science requirement instead of just biology, chemistry and physics, other science courses should allow you to receive core credit.

Political Science - Senior:

I think the core is fine; college students SHOULD be required to take the courses in the core.

Political Science - Senior:

I believe that poli sci allows for quite a few electives, but, I do not believe there are enough elective courses offered.

Political Science - Senior:

Needs to be more flexible.

Political Science - Senior:

My first thought is that I feel class standing will influence the results. Looking back on my four years I feel the need to broaden areas of concern/interest primarily because there are areas/topics have at one time or another come to the forefront of my major. I feel a serious need to pull students in wider direction so as to come to a more universal understanding of the

world around us (especially in times of increasing change). However, let us not isolate ourselves in intellectual pursuit without realizing the world around us. Currently I feel a student ...4 years of patronage without addressing "real" needs as well. It's the application of what we learn here that really matters.

Psychology - Freshman:

I think that more time should be taken to place the student in class which she/he is challenged. In basically all my classes I've taken the material before and it is all review. I would rather be spending my time learning something new.

Psychology - Junior:

I feel the liberal arts program is well directed. I enjoy taking classes concerning subjects in my major.

Psychology - Junior:

When I was a freshman I came here not knowing what major I wanted. It was difficult to decide what I wanted because I could not take courses of interest because the core restricted me from exploring. If I took too many electives then I would fall behind in the core. More electives would allow one to explore and decide exactly what area of major interests one most.

Psychology - Junior:

It is said that people that transfer from NMSU a). did not bond with the community or b). had a poor GPA. I was born here and have a 3.81 GPA and I am also transferring. You cannot get into the classes you need and I don't want to waste time on classes I can't use to graduate. I am going to UMKC where there are 50 elective hours. I plan to take specialty topic courses to better prepare me for my job - social work - whereas all of the requirements here such as in science and math will not be of much help.

Psychology - Junior:

I do not feel that there are enough electives to choose from. Also, too much stress is placed on the liberal arts part of degrees and not on the major. Isn't the core enough without having to also take discipline directed requirements? Four electives added to the requirements would be too much! If these four courses were part of the program, I think it would work better.

Psychology - Junior:

I've just changed majors from Music Performance to Psychology. In music there is NO room for electives. In psychology there seems to be more room, although I'm still familiarizing myself with the requirements.

I can't think of any concrete examples right now, but possibly if some courses could count double, that is, they could fulfill two requirements - it would help. Also, there is some confusion with areas of concentration vs. the core requirements - this is where it would be nice to know what could count for both, if anything.

Psychology - Junior:

I've had trouble with the core requirements for two reasons. First, I am a transfer student. Second, I switched majors. Because of that, I have absolutely no room to take anything. For me, the core has very much restricted the courses I could take.

Psychology - Senior:

The core should have MUCH more flexibility!! I do think a certain # of classes are needed in certain areas, but there is also room for alternatives. There should also be some choices in a "Misc." area (not just science, humanities, social science), that way people can take agriculture, car maintenance, etc.

Please change the core as soon as possible for the benefit of future NMSU students!

Psychology/Biology - Senior:

We need more electives and fewer required courses. By forcing students to take classes that don't apply to their major, the college is forcing students to take on a negative attitude and harbor ill feelings. Doing away with these requirements and introducing more elective options will help to eliminate these feelings.

Psychology - Senior:

We need more electives instead of so many requirements! There would be so many other classes that I would take if I only had time!

Psychology - Senior:

We need more electives!! In my three years here I have had NO electives except deciding between courses in an area of the core.

Psychology - Senior:

The core should contain more classes with more flexibility in those classes. The core should allow more classes to be available, since one cannot take electives in their major areas for core directed classes. There should be a greater option to select classes that could relate to your major.

Psychology - Senior:

The core would be improved if more electives were given. They say this is a liberal arts university and I see this as meaning that you learn from many disciplines. However, the way the core is presently set up, there is not enough time to learn just to learn because you are too busy to put electives in your schedule. To allow for this, they should reduce the number of discipline directed classes and replace them with electives.

Psychology - Senior:

The core is very restrictive - needs more "free" electives. As a graduating senior, I

would have preferred to have had more hours directed toward my major.

Psychology - Senior:

The core is presently too restrictive. It would expand our horizons greatly. The way it is going now, we really have no choice.

Psychology (BS) - Senior:

We need more electives. As it is now we don't have much of a choice as to what we take. If you call this value added, then let's have a choice to add value to our education.

Psychology - Senior:

I think that for older students anyway the meaning of "area of concentration" should be more defined and fully elaborated on because no one seems tc know what that applies to. As n undecided major for the majority of my college career, the core was not a problem area. however, all the extra classes I took trying to decide on a major don't usually count for much. Other students don't have as many electives as I and don't get to truly explore areas they are otherwise interested in which additional elective hours would provide.

Psychology (BA) - Senior:

The present core could increase the number of electives both in allowing more electives in the major and allowing less restrictions in the core such as 15 hours math and science. You could pick any classes (as long as they add up to the 50 core hours) you want.

Communications - Speech - Freshman:

Health and Wellness is a waste of my time.

English -(BA) - Junior:

I agree that we need room for more electives. I do strongly believe in liberal arts education, as a broad base of knowledge, but I don't think we should be so rigidly restricted. (EX. the math/sciences - I hate how it's set up so that a student who take 2 four hour lab science classes, college algebra and trig. falls 1 hours short of the requirement and is forced to take another class!)

Communications - Speech - Senior:

I have been able to take 12 + hours of electives this year in business classes because I may go into a business program in graduate school. However, I would not have been able to do that without taking 15 hours worth of summer classes the past 3 summers.

I think the core curriculum has a good basic foundation of liberal arts but maybe there should be some flexibility in choosing those classes rather than just the ones currently listed. I know so many seniors who end up needing class substitutions anyway!

Communications - Speech - Senior:

First of all, I don't agree with that NMSU emphasizes on the liberal arts. That's because we have to take so many classes in the liberal arts so that we can't take many classes which are basically not in our major classes. Within the limited year, for example four years, I personally want to study the different subject such as business and economics.

Communications - Speech -Journalism minor - Senior:

As I complete my four years at NMSU I am slightly disappointed that I did not have the flexibility I desired in course selection.

One major reason for this is core requirements which are too strict. Courses which I had absolutely NO interest in had to be taken while those which would have allowed me to "taste" various subject areas I had interest in were not possible due to combination of requirements, etc.

Communications - Speech - Senior:

I would try to take 2 classes in theater. I think the core curriculum is too structured. If I had more time to take electives, I could easily take classes to receive a minor. As of now, I'm not able to do that, even to try to get one in communication disorders when my major is speech communications.

One thing that might come up as a result in changing the core would be the status of this institution as having a strong liberal arts and sciences background for its students. Although I don't know if 4 courses would make that much of a difference. Also, I guess the electives might come from the core also if the student chooses to do so.

Communications - Speech - Senior:

I feel that the elimination of a few more requirements would allow more people to have a second area of influence. That is, not JUST a major, but perhaps a minor as well. These extra hours would make it possible to have a more directed area of concentration and the student could easily work an extra emphasis into a 4-year plan given the extra electives.

Communications - Speech - Senior:

Northeast takes pride in its liberal arts background, which is supposed to broaden the character of its students. It seems unfortunate to me that students cannot take the classes in other disciplines that might really appeal to them. In my case, as I near graduation, I find that not only is my interest greater in my elective courses, but my grades are higher as a result of my learning more. Unfortunately, all the classes I've had, most have been selected from what I would rate a somewhat limited set of core requirements.

Communications - Media - Senior:

I think the University requires too many total number of courses to graduate. I know of several seniors who are taking 18 or more hours for their entire senior year just so their total can add to 125 - even after all their core requirements are done. I think the University should put more emphasis on core and major class requirements than on the quantity of them.

Communications - Speech - Junior:

For major core - allow students to choose the classes they would like to take freely without the structure of "2 classes from this section, 1 from here...", etc.

General education - be able to substitute classes freely. Some classes are just plain dumb to HAVE to take when another class could be as or more beneficial and more enjoyable for the student.

Communications - Speech - Junior:

The liberal arts and sciences core is too structured and does not include classes from enough disciplines. For example, I'd like to take one or two classes in the Justice Systems Dept., but I have to finish up my core classes first, and I don't know if the Justice Systems classes could count as electives or not.

Communications - Speech - Junior:

I feel that the core curriculum as it stands now is too structured. Credit requirements do not allow students to seek classes in other majors. Speaking from personal experience, there are many classes in other disciplines that I would enjoy taking, but I can't find the time for them without postponing my graduation date. If this is a true liberal arts college, then we should be given the opportunity to take a closer examination of disciplines other than our own.

Communications - Speech - Junior:

I feel that 14 hours of math and science is a little much, especially when some students definitely have no ability in those fields. Make sure that core classes aren't requiring more work than major classes. The way it is now with class loads is ridiculous.

Get rid of the third section of humanities (music apprec., arts and man, etc.). More emphasis on studying languages. Require that students have an area of concentration or minor to go along with their major. Delete English Comp. II and writer's test.

Communications - Speech - Junior:

I think it can be improved by making the core requirements more flexible - allowing students to choose classes that interest them, rather than giving them a limited choice. I think that adding more electives is a great idea, and maybe getting rid of some of the discipline-directed electives and making them general electives.

Communications - Speech - Junior:

Right now the core does not allow for enough flexibility as far as electives up and it is not possible to substitute classes for credit in the core.

I have a problem with math and at almost any other school I could substitute science classes for math classes. Northeast is too strict with the core and it wastes a lot of students' time and causes them to have to take classes they don't like. When a student doesn't like a class he or she will almost always to more poorly than if the student enjoyed the class.

I am very glad to hear that NMSU is looking at the core and trying to fix the problems with it!

Communications - Speech and French - Junior:

I realize that as a double major my course load is going to be limited as far as electives go, but with the core requirement as it is I basically have no choice in the classes I take. The classes that I take satisfy either the core requirements or my major requirements. I have no electives. I don't think students wishing to pursue a double major should be punished in this way.

Communications - Speech - Junior:

It is STUPID to make students take 14-15 hours of math and science combined, a lot of times students are 1 hour short of fulfilling this requirement and have to take a 3-hour class to fulfill it. For example, taking 2 science courses - biology & chemistry=8 hours + 5 hours for college algebra and trig. It is very frustrating to have to take a 3 hours class to fulfill 1 more hour of credit. Either you should change the minimum requirement to 13-15 hours or offer a 1 hour class to help students out.

A lot of times undecided students can't use the courses that they take before they decide on a major. The discipline directed electives need to be freed up so that those classes that were taken before deciding on a major can apply toward graduation.

Communications - Journalism - Junior:

Core needs to allow more choices and freedom for students to choose the path their education takes.

Communications - Sophomore:

Because my major involves varying forms of communication, I feel that it would be beneficial for me to explore a wide variety of classes so I could apply my major across different areas of the curriculum and see how these could be applied in the environment.

English (BA) - Senior:

I have taken most of the electives that I wanted to take, although it has taken me 4 1/2 years to complete my degree. There are probably 2 or 3 classes I would like to take although after 4 1/2 years of college I am ready for a break so I won't stay longer to complete those courses.

Communications - Journalism - Sophomore:

Need a Japanese major or higher education in the language (minor). Extra classes like culture, too.

Communications - Speech - Sophomore:

I would like to see more electives available. This university has an entirely too rigid a core requirement list. It is too full and too inflexible. It is very easy to get off course. Also, the upper level requirements (40 hours of 300-level electives) is too much.

Communications - Journalism - Junior:

I feel that the core is useful and appropriate right now, but it should be changed now for

future students because of future demands. Education is getting more expensive every year and students can't afford to be here 5 years. If core classes could be used towards their major, most students could get out of here in four years.

Communications - Speech - Junior:

I think more elective courses would probably be better for the student. We are required to choose a certain number of hours from our liberal arts curriculum. But who chooses how many of each we should have, why are we required to have 15 hours of math and science and only 9 of history? Allowing more elective courses would let the students put more time and energy into classes they would really rather be enrolled in.

Communications - Journalism - Sophomore:

The core does not allow for enough learning in areas outside of the major. This limits the education you get that the individual feels may be helpful to his education.

Theatre - Senior:

The present core does give a well-rounded education, but it is too strict, too limited on options. If a person is going to graduate in 4 years, they will not have time to take any classes that may help them, but are not "required". For example, I am a theatre major interested in performance and costuming and there are several classes which would help me, such as a sewing class from Family Sciences, a dance class, a music class, etc. But I am not going to have a chance to take these if I wish to graduate in May.

Theatre/Psychology - Sophomore:

The core requirements are okay by number, but not by selection. I would like it if the university would be more lenient in what classes you could take for the core.

Theatre - Junior:

I feel that some of my classes in theatre should go toward my major or could be applied toward the core. Scene design, stage lighting, and contemporary dramatic literature are all important courses, yet I cannot apply them to graduation simply because there is no room in the core.

Theatre - Sophomore:

I think the curriculum stresses too much on the core and not enough on the major. I also think there should be more courses offered in the theatre dept.

Theatre - Junior:

Tighten the choices, thus making the core more intensified and standard. Realizing that different majors have different needs, having a different arts and sciences core for each major may be effective.

Communications - Theatre - Sophomore:

I understand that, by attending NMSU, I have the opportunity for a well-rounded education. However, basic core requirements which have nothing to do with my major and which I have no interest should not be required in such extensive amounts. Most of the time when registering for these classes, I and others find ourselves registering only for the ones which have reputations for being the "easiest classes in which nothing is learned". If this is the case, what is the point in us having to attend at all - when we simply find the classes in which we don't learn and only waste our time.

Theatre - Sophomore:

There are too many core requirements. By the time a person completes all his core requirements (most of which having noting to do with what he or she wants to do in life) there is no time to take classes the person might actually enjoy and be interested in.

Undeclared - Sophomore:

Students ought to be encouraged to take more classes outside of their major. Some programs like pre-med and pre-vet do not allow for many extra, broadening classes. I think students should be encouraged to take at least 1 class outside of their major every semester so that they can expand their limits and learn more about themselves and others.

Undeclared:

I feel that theoretically the core idea is fantastic and that it is essential to have minimal requirements to prepare students. Problems arise because many people consider the core classes as "blow off" or "easy A's". If we are going to implement requirements it is vital that those classes are teaching us, not just filling up 3 hours of the week. Also, because of the number of requirements it is basically impossible for me to take something like ballroom dancing or art for fear of ...at this institution.

Undeclared - Freshman:

I'm new at the school and haven't familiarized myself too well with the core curriculum yet. I have looked over it a bit and remember thinking there are so many course I'd like to take, but if I want to graduate in 4 years it's not possible due to the heavy load of core classes. I do believe a general education in many areas is helpful, but I think a bit too much is required here without much choice on the part of the student. I believe it is more beneficial for the student when we have the opportunity to take many areas of electives so that we can test out areas we wouldn't have if we didn't have so many electives.

Undecided - Sophomore:

Too hard.

Undecided - Freshman:

I think that the core is way too strict. The reason I am undecided is because I'm interested in more than one subject - but by declaring a major, I wouldn't be able to be 100% sure of my decision because I haven't had classes in both. I don't want to be in school more

than the supposed 4 years. Therefore, I don't want to take more classes than necessary. I think more electives should be allowed.

Undeclared - Freshman:

I'm not a full-time student, so I really don't have an educated opinion on this subject.

Undecided - Freshman:

Since I'm an international student, I don't really have any thoughts about liberal arts and science courses. But what I have experienced so far is ok.

Undeclared - Sophomore:

I think that the current curriculum is too restrictive, and that it would be more beneficial to the students if they were able to shape their own core, including classes that will apply to the major and also classes of outside interest. A basic education is a good beginning for the core, and then the student would be able to build on that from their own interests.

Undeclared - Freshman:

At the current time, I am undeclared. Thus far, I have no major problems with the way the core is set up.

Undeclared - Freshman:

Because I am undecided as to what I want my major to be, I haven't looked much at core requirements and have no complaints or improvements to be made.

Undecided - Freshman:

I will not have the time to take those extra courses. I need to concentrate on a major, no a bunch of other stuff that I don't need. I'd be "well-rounded" enough.

Communications - Journalism - Senior:

I believe more electives should be open for one very personal reason:
As a Comm. major, my classes emphasize journalism and writing and comm. theory. as a career, journalism is NOT what I plan to use my major for. I am going into marketing, and the availability of more hours to use in the business discipline would have helped me to round out my education and make me more functional in the business world. I have managed to squeeze a few in, but with more open electives, I could have been truly schooled in liberal arts and sciences -- a well-rounded person.

Liberal Arts - BA - Junior:

Bringing up the idea of allowing more electives, would in turn, drop the total credit hours of required core. I feel, in music, we are required to take too many classes. As in each major, there are specific curriculum requirements, but, for instance, I am quite interested in psychology, but I have no room in my schedule to pursue these interests. The only way I feel

that I am going to finish in 4 years is if I go to summer school and this shouldn't be the case. I am a 3.0 student and have never had to repeat a class. There is definitely too little time and too many requirements.

Undeclared - Freshman:

I think that too may courses, that I have no ability in, are required, and therefore pull down my GPA.

Undeclared:

I think that the liberal arts and sciences curriculum could be much more flexible. The discipline-directed electives (as explained by my advisor) are even too rigid; I would prefer to be allowed to choose discipline directed electives from anything offered at the University. For example, if I were a psych. major, I would think that classes in justice systems should be allowed to count for a discipline directed elective. (and not just if you are in a bind before graduation)

Also, I think the theatre dept. has been greatly overlooked as part of the humanities electives. Music History and Art History count for a humanities core, so why doesn't theatre history?

No major or standing:

The core is sort of unclear to me. I'm not sure what I have to take for double minors, double majors, etc.

Senior:

I think we should dump the core or at reduce it considerably. Maybe offer a 2 or 3 program without the core stuff. Free up more hours for our majors. I've got 72 hours of core and only 33 for my major - it should be the other way around.

No major or standing:

Make it easier to change or modify majors and reevaluate current standing. Ie. make more classes in common for related majors.